

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED.
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

PURE WINES.

We beg to invite careful attention to the following selection from our Wine List, for we have succeeded in combining purity and excellence of quality with moderate prices.

SHERRY.

per case, per bottle.

Vino Genesio—a generous round wine, green seal.....\$5.00 \$0.60
Vino Depasto—a medium dry wine with delicate flavour, red seal.....\$10.00 \$1.00
Amonillado—a high class natural wine for connoisseurs of Sherry, yellow seal.....\$12.00 \$1.10
Delicieux—the very finest sherry procurable, 6 years in bottle.....\$14.00 \$1.25

PORT.

Superior quality.....\$10.00 \$1.00
Invalid Port, gold seal.....\$12.00 \$1.10
Old Tawny, soft and mellow, black seal.....\$14.00 \$1.25
Specially selected old vintage.....\$10.00 \$1.75

BURGUNDY.

Beaune—a full-bodied red Burgundy with strengthening properties.....\$14.00 \$1.25
Chablis—mellow, white Burgundy, fine flavour and bouquet.....\$14.00 \$1.25

CHAMPAGNE.

Avize—a well matured, specially selected dry wine.....\$18.00 \$1.75
Lemoine—Vin-brut—Cuvée Royale. As supplied regularly to the Prince of Wales, House of Commons, and the chief clubs in London, &c.....\$12.00 \$2.00
Per case of 24 bottles.....\$13.00 \$1.00

We are sole Agents in China for the Sale of this splendid Wine.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1891. [37]

BY APPOINTMENT.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED WATERS.

Our New Factory has been recently refitted with automatic Steam Machinery of the latest and most approved kind, and we are able to compete in quality with the best English Makers.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

LARGE BOMBAY

"SODAS"

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, of Extra Charge, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS. Whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

FOR COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is, "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock—

PURE AERATED WATERS
SODA WATER
LEMONADE
POTASH WATER
SALTZEL WATER

LITHIA WATER
SARSAPARILLA WATER
TONIC WATER
GINGER ALE
GINGERADE.

No Credit given for bottles that look dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of Containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED,
Hongkong, China, and Manila.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1891.

The London and China Express of February 6th says that an extract from a Blue Book on Hongkong is going the rounds of the English press which points out that the prosperity and advancement of the colony are bound up with the progress made by the great country on whose confines Hongkong is situated. Here is the closing sentence of the extract—

To encourage China in the adoption of modern ideas, to assist her, in so far as possible, in opening up her vast territory, and to facilitate intercourse between her and other nations, should surely be the duty of a colony whose interests are interwoven with her interests, and whose prosperity will be retarded in proportion as she is held back by a policy of too conservative a nature.

These words, says the *L. & C. Express*, are perfectly true, and we have no very strong reasons to suggest that they are not; but surely anybody and everybody who knows the least thing at all about

Hongkong and China, their geographical positions and mutual commercial necessities, didn't require these stale truisms rammed down their throats through the medium of an official Blue Book? Our worthy London contemporary makes these comments—

"It is justice to those who have had the making of Hongkong politically and commercially, however, it should be pointed out that though a further relative increase of prosperity is in large part dependent on the progress that China herself makes, still what Hongkong has done has been mainly of her own bat. She has had the material at hand to work on, and the opportunity has been taken, until she finds herself in the magnificent position she now occupies."

The latter sentence in this quotation is exceedingly funny, and again shows what a profound knowledge of this colony and its affairs is possessed by so-called experts and old China hands in London. Sooth to say, the material at the disposal of the men whose enterprise, perseverance and industry made Hongkong what she is to-day, was but scanty and of poor quality—in plain truth, the British pioneers of trade had to go through an experiment very much resembling the very difficult operation of making bricks without straw. Hongkong's commercial importance as a trading centre, whatever may be its present actual value either commercially or politically, is undoubtedly owing to the fact that Chinese traders in thousands, having confidence in the foreign invaders and recognising the advantages of living under the protection of British rule, flocked into the colony, until to-day almost the whole of the trade is practically in their hands. Foreign merchants still do a limited business both in imports and exports, but it is chiefly on commission or as agents or go-betweens for Chinese firms. Our banks and public companies are still under foreign control, and there are various shipping enterprises flourishing in our midst directed by foreigners; but even in all these, with but few exceptions, Chinese influence is conspicuously paramount. Hongkong is no doubt a wonderful place, a marvellous instance of successful British colonization, but in appraising the causes which have led to such gratifying results, the potent Chinese element has been generally overlooked. And among Far Eastern ports, this city of Victoria is by no means exceptional in that respect.

But what can the Editor of the *L. & C. Express* mean when he refers to the "magnificent position" Hongkong now occupies? Where does the "magnificent position" come in? The trade of the place could scarcely be worse than it is, and in no town in the world of the same size is there more wide-spread suffering and misery. Foreigners, unless exceptionally placed, are only able to earn a bare livelihood, and many indeed find it impossible to make ends meet. Where are the grand old historical "hongs" and shipping firms of less than twenty years ago? They have departed like the very much defunct China tea trade, and in all but a few striking cases left only grades and commission shops behind. Trade in foreign hands in Hongkong is almost as dead as it is in Canton and Macao; the energetic, far-seeing and industrious Chinese have the game almost entirely in their own hands, and they know it well. Why we do not frankly recognise it too is one of those hereditary traits of English character which nobody can clearly explain. It is true we have a numerous and comfortably provided official class, and if the "magnificent position" of the London paper refers to these ornaments to local society, we at once cry *peccati*; but as a mercantile and, to some extent, manufacturing centre, Hongkong at the present time is in dire distress, and has been laboring under great depression for the past eighteen months. The prosperity of a commercial port cannot be gauged by the successful ventures of a gambling bank nor by the fictitious dividends of speculative joint-stock concerns. Hongkong's "magnificent position," on paper, was acquired during that eventful season of summer madness when companies of every shape and hue were floated almost daily, and about every foreigner in the town thought himself hand-and-glove with fortune. The bubble burst, and so did Hongkong's ephemeral magnificence. If there is a more poverty-stricken, woe-begone, and generally wretched British city on the face of the earth than this vaunted Victoria, we should like to know where it is to be found. The only magnificence in the place must be sought for amongst opulent Chinese merchants—and the successful Bank directors and their jackals. It doesn't exist anywhere else.

TELEGRAMS.

GREAT SNOW-STORM IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 14th.

An unparalleled blizzard is passing over the South of England. Trains on the south-east lines are blocked, now continues unabated in London, and the Channel packets are arriving twelve hours late.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

We are requested to state that the Lawn Tennis handicap must be finished by Thursday next.

THERE will be a game of polo at Causeway Bay on Monday next, commencing at 4.30 p.m.

THE O. & C. Co.'s steamship *Galle* (Capt. W. G. Pearce), with mails etc. from San Francisco, arrived here this evening.

THE half-yearly report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., for the six months ended the 31st December, 1890, will be found in our advertising columns.

IN the days of her public baths and political glory Rome had a daily water supply of 300 gallons per *caput*. What about the Tytan skeleton after that?

THE Canadian-Pacific Co.'s chartered steamer *Albatross*, Capt. Williams, is, we hear, going to make a few trips to and from Saigon prior to leaving the Far East for good.

MR. de Silva of the Dairy Farm had the pleasure of singing five songs into Her Grace's coffers this morning, owing to a cook swearing that he assaulted him a day or two ago.

A MEETING of members of the Hongkong Polo Club will be held at the Polo Ground, Causeway Bay, on Monday next at 5.30 p.m. to decide whether or not the Club will hold a Sky Race Meeting this spring—and if so, when?

A NATIVE previously convicted of being in possession of opium without an O. F. certificate, faced the music at the Police Court this morning owing to Excise Officers having found him up to his old tricks again. \$50 settled the matter.

CAPT. Joseph Hogg who was fined \$100 at the Police Court on the 7th inst. for over-loading the British steamer *Narva* has, we hear, withdrawn the notice of appeal which he gave at the time the Mexicans were passed over.

CHIEF Excise Officer Spooner visited the cabin of the chief officer of the British bark *Wm. Le Lachur* this afternoon and carried off 200 lbs. of prepared opium. The usual "cave" in connection therewith will occupy the attention of the Magistrate on Monday.

MR. Hillier, H.M.'s Consul-General in Korea, was amongst the homeward-bound passengers on board the German mail steamer which arrived here yesterday from the North. Mr. James Scott is now British Chargé d'Affaires in the peninsular Kingdom.

A NEWSPAPER correspondent, writing on the 14th inst., says that the ice on the river is a foot thicker than last year; it varies from 20 to 29 inches in depth, taken in several soundings. The Chinese Government wharf and the Creek which now bounds the British Settlement.

THE Chungking Customs was formally opened on the 1st inst., by the Commissioner of Customs, the British Consul, and the Tao-tai. The Customs offices are at present in the house of the Chinese Sugar Guild, and they will remain in that building until the Custom House is built.

We read that, in spite of the advancing years and increasing flesh of the Empress of Russia, she has not lost her taste for dancing, but indulges in that pastime nearly as freely as she did in her youth, when her devotion to it won her the name among her friends of "the grass-hopper."

"It beats me," mused the modern theatre manager. "This here William Shakespeare wrote the play *Hamlet*, yet he leaves the downing scene out." "It does seem queer," observed the stage carpenter, with a touch of vanity, "but maybe he didn't know how to make a tack."

THE CZARWITCH has made up his mind not to go to Shanghai, so that all the extensive and expensive preparations made for his reception there have been in vain. Admiral Nakhimov wired from Baïavia to the Russian Consul in Shanghai that, "owing to shortness of time his Imperial Highness will pass from Saddle Islands straight to Hankow without touching Shanghai."

A FOOTBALL match under Association rules has been arranged between the Club and the officers of the Garrison, and will be played in Happy Valley on Monday afternoon. The game will be commenced at 4.30 sharp, and players are requested to be punctual. The following members will represent the Club—W. V. Anderson, A. Sharp, W. H. Wallace, F. Mallind, H. Marshall, H. W. Slade, J. M. D. W. James, F. H. Lewis, and two others.

THE Nagasaki *Rising Sun* of the 6th inst. says that Captain Hook of the Russian schooner *Nadushda*, which has been acting as tender to the Russian whaling steamer *Grenady Novichkov*, had little hope of the latter vessel's safety. The *Grenady* left Tsagotsan-dog, in northern Korea, for a port 50 miles east of Vladivostok on the 11th of January, but only two days' coal on board, and not since been heard of, though Captain Hook called all round the Korean coast, looking for her. She had a ship's company of 14, all Russians.

Nor for those who risk the dangers of the deep by going down in ships to the sea, is this little warning sound, but rather on behalf of the disciples of Venus and Bacchus who occasionally worship in the temples situated in *Rue de Gage* and its immediate neighbourhood. On the twelfth day of the current month whilst a detective lay watching in Gage Street for anything that came amiss (or any other woman) might see him, his attention was attracted by the suspicious movements of three Celestials who just then hove in sight. He of the argus eyes sought shelter and waited developments, and the three came warily on, with their optics well open for any snare that might appear in the form of an ejected workman from one of the temples already referred to. Then it came to pass—much the same way as it did in Peter's case—just as the clock was about to herald the coming dawn, the night birds took flight at some imaginary alarm, and set all sail for Tai-ping-shan with the detective in hot pursuit. After an exciting chase one of the three was captured, and in his possession there was found a nice handy dagger which he had just taken from a pocket of the family tock-pick and also a packet of pepper, but of the latter he could give no satisfactory account. The detective, however, thought he could, and "yanked" the whole show up to Gordon Castle where the captured one is now being cared for, prior to making the desired statement for the sake and object of his stroll on the night in question, and also as to the possession of the dagger and pepper.

THE following gentlemen form the Shanghai Municipal Council for the ensuing year—Chairman—Mr. John Macgregor. Vice-Chairman—Mr. J. G. Purdon. Finance Committee—Messrs. W. D. Little, J. Graham, and D. M. Moses. Works Committee—Messrs. John Macgregor, H. H. Joseph, and E. A. Probst. Watch and Defence Committee—Messrs. G. Purdon, D. C. Jansen, and W. McDonald.

An inquest was held this afternoon in Victoria Gaol by Mr. A. G. Wise, Acting Coroner, upon the body of Ying Yip, a prisoner, who was sentenced to a week's imprisonment on the 9th inst. for larceny. The jury were—Messrs. R. P. Dipple, H. Hyndman, and B. W. Wolff. Dr. Marques said the deceased was admitted to hospital on the 11th suffering from diarrhoea and died suddenly yesterday afternoon. Dr. Cowie, who made a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased, said the intestines were in an ulcerated condition from the effects of which he had died. A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

THE *Sydney Bulletin* says that several times last year the N.S.W. Supreme Court dealt with attorneys who had retained their clients' money, and that early this year the Court will be asked to say whether those attorneys who retain junior barristers' fees—they can't get rid of them from the senior Bar—should not also be dealt with. In England a solicitor was recently suspended for 12 months for non-payment of fees to counsel. As the attorneys get the money from their clients, and then pay the barristers, the retention of the fees clearly amounts to a misappropriation of trust funds. There are some sharp practitioners in Hongkong who might study this little para. to advantage—if not with profit and pleasure.

OUR extremely friend the Rev. Sam. Jones got out extremely hot water the other day at Palestine, Texas. In the course of a lecture the belligerent evangelist thought fit to animadvert in pretty severe terms on the official and private character of Mr. Ward, the mayor of the town. Ward met Samuel at the railway station next morning and attacked him vigorously with a cane. And then there were ructions. The Rev. Sam, grappled with the mayor, took him down from him, and waled him unmercifully. When separated by the onlookers, both combatants were bleeding profusely. The evangelist got on board the train and cleared out, whilst the luckless mayor was placed under arrest for aggravated assault and carrying a pistol.

It appears from the *United Service Gazette* that during the voyage to the East of the Casewitch serious quarrels occurred between Captain Lohmann of the *Painted Arrow* and Prince Bariatsky, aide-de-camp, to the Casewitch. Prince Bariatsky wanted to "boss" the show, interfered with the navigation of the ship, gave orders at sea for the boats to be lowered so that the Princes might indulge in some rowing exercise, and otherwise troubled the crew. Captain Lohmann, who insisted on being master of his own ship, and the friction became so extreme that mutiny at last resulted, a portion of the crew taking the part of Prince Bariatsky. Captain Lohmann placed the mutineers under arrest, and had them at once sent back to Russia. We hope that peace, love and harmony now prevail.

THE annual ball of the Mith-bo-loongs, firemen and soldiers, was held in Shanghai on Friday the 6th inst., and proved most successful in every respect. There were three hundred and fifty guests present, of whom one third were ladies, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until an early hour on Saturday morning. Commenting on the ball, our Shanghai morning contemporary remarks: "The occasion was notable one, as 1891 marks twenty-five years since the Mith-bo-loong Hook and Ladder Company came into being. The original roll of the company was hung up as usual in the ball room; and it was interesting to see that seven of the signers of that roll in June, 1866, were in the room on Friday, among them the bearers of the first three names on it. Those seven do not comprise all the original Mith-bo-loongs who are still in Shanghai; and who would will, if required, be as ready as of old to carry out the company's motto: "Say the word, and down comes your house!"

THE D'Aguliar Street burglary case, in connection with which a Water Police *lukung*, No. 107, was arrested, passed through its final stages this morning. Inspector Mackie conducted the prosecution. After a Chinese detective had given his evidence in connection with the confession of the constable, one of the defendants, after being duly cautioned, said "I was not one of the party that went into the house. I remained below. Three of the party went upstairs and did the robbing. The *lukung* took me there. He said there was no fear, so of course I went. The things were taken and we went away. Fan Ki, Lai Yun and Yun Sik went to Canton and there melted the jewellery down, and then they came back here. I don't know how much they leached. They gave me \$25. A lot of people told me to get away, but I remained, thinking it could not implicate me. I have nothing more to state." Fan Ki, the *lukung*, reserved his defence, and the case was adjourned for trial at the Criminal Sessions on the 18th inst.

A private meeting of shareholders in the Penion Company was held yesterday to discuss certain matters which the Directors considered it advisable to lay before those interested. We are not acquainted with the details of the Directors' information, nor have we any definite knowledge of what transpired; the meeting was announced as a private one—for reasons that may or may not be justifiable—which was sufficient for the representatives of the public press. If the Directors had wished the proceedings of the meeting published they would undoubtedly have invited the reporters of the three local papers to attend. And yet, to our astonishment, we find both in the *China Mail* and *Daily Press* what is said to be a summary of the proceedings at this private meeting. Anything more disreputable we have seldom seen in Hongkong journalism. That the evening rag would descend to the meanest of gutterdodges for a sensational paragraph, we know from a pretty long experience; but we did give due credit to *Granny* the credit of knowing something about journalistic etiquette, and of being, albeit as dull as ditch water, fairly respectable. As these emaciated reports are calculated to convey a very erroneous impression amongst shareholders who were not present at the meeting, in the Far East and elsewhere, and may even do a great deal of harm, we would suggest to the Directors the advisability of publishing before the next mail leaves for home, a full official statement of the entire proceedings. Such a statement would at least prevent any misconception as to the Penion Company's position or prospects, and might prevent a panic on the London Stock Exchange. As for our editorial colleagues of *Granny* and the *Swail*, they will get over their *jeune paille* by the usual *know-nothing* and *booby* kicking.

ST. PETER'S SEAMEN'S CHURCH.—The Mission steam-launch *Dry Spring* will call alongside vessels hoisting code pennant C between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday to convey men a shore to the 11 o'clock service, returning about 12.30.

OUR old chum, Citizen George Francis Train, informs us that he is writing a book detailing all the marvels he saw—and some he didn't see but jotted down all the same—during that wonderful globe-trotting scurry of his from the Pacific Coast to nowhere in particular and back again. The volume will be published shortly, and the Citizen promises to send us a copy.

THE ADJOURNED APPLICATION FOR AN ADJUNCT LICENSE.

An adjourned meeting of the Justices of the Peace was held this morning at the Magistrate's Chambers. Present—Messrs. A. G. Wise (Chairman), P. Ryrie, A. Shelton Hooper, E. L. Woodin, Grenville Sharp, A. J. Leach, F. Henderson, D. R. Sassoon, R. Lyall, G. Horspool, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, and W. M. B. Arthur (clerk).

Mr. Bowles appeared on behalf of the applicant, and Mr. Caldwell opposed the application on behalf of Mr. Madar, of the Victoria Hotel, and also several licensed publicans in the Western district.

Mr. Wise said as several more Justices were present than on the last occasion he would briefly explain the application they were met to consider. The applicant had applied for a license to sell intoxicating liquors, and the application was adjourned last week to enable the applicant to furnish particulars regarding his respectability. Mr. Bowles represented the applicant and he would now hear anything further he had to say.

Mr. Caldwell said he should like to state that he opposed the application on behalf of Mr. Madar, of the Victoria Hotel, and besides he had been instructed by several others to oppose the application.

Mr. Bowles said the application was made by Edmund Fuchs for an adjunct license for a restaurant he proposed opening in premises in Pottinger Street. The applicant arrived here last September, and since he had been in the Colony he had established himself as a merchant and commission agent. He had had large transactions in lamps, glass, &c., and had done several commissions, supplying the Marina, with lamps. He had his wife and niece in the Colony and they were in a small way of business in D'Aguliar Street. The matter was adjourned last Saturday to furnish particulars of the character of the applicant. He was not very well known in the Colony, having only been here some six months, but a man didn't carry his character in his pocket, and he submitted that he should judge the man by what was known of him whilst in the Colony, and the manner he had conducted his business. Mr. Fuchs had made a sworn statement before Mr. Shepherd that he was a native of Austro-Hungary, born at Buda-Pesth, and was legally married to his wife. He (Mr. Bowles) produced the certificates, and did so because he had heard rumours to the effect that the applicant was not properly married, and it was not right.

Mr. Wise said that no such assertions were made at their meeting.

Mr. Bowles, continuing, then read a statement made by the applicant as to his birth-place and nationality, and said he was at present living in D'Aguliar Street with his wife and niece. The latter kept a small millinery business, and he himself did business as an import merchant and commission agent. The certificates of his birth and marriage, attested by the Austrian Consul, were submitted and he further begged to state that he had had several large sales effected for him by Mr. G. P. Lammer. The object of his application was to supply a want experienced by sea-faring men, and he proposed to open the premises as a restaurant, and sell beer only during meal times, the business being looked after by himself and his wife. Mr. Bowles then read several testimonials of the applicant's character, and conducted his business. Mr. Fuchs stated that he had known the applicant for ten years, both in Bombay, Calcutta and Hongkong, and so far as he knew there was nothing detrimental to his character. Mr. H. Carmichael, a merchant, and Mr. Stewart, a commission agent, had also signed a joint testimonial as to the applicant's character. Mr. Carmichael said he had known Mr. Fuchs for six months, during his residence in this colony, as an import merchant. Mr. Fuchs had done several commissions for him, and he had always found him honest and a thorough business-man. Mr. Stewart, who had been in business in the Colony since 1888, said he lived at No. 12, D'Aguliar Street. The ground floor of those premises was occupied by Mr. Fuchs, his wife and niece, and he had always found them respectable. Mr. Lammer gave testimony, in a statement that he had, had dealings with Mr. Fuchs, whom he always found, during the six months he had known him, a respectable and good business-man. Mr. Bowles submitted that these were the only evidences of the applicant's character he had been able to obtain, but as he had before said, a man did not always carry about his character in his pocket, and the character of the applicant should be judged by his conduct during his residence in the Colony. The objection the Police had to the license was that it was not necessary, but he submitted that it was necessary, as the matter was not such as to be of the proposed nature in the Colony. The sea-faring class who came ashore could not afford to pay a bar for their refreshment as they would have to do in Victoria Hotel, and in the house such as proper. They could be supplied with a meal for twenty, or thereabouts. There not being a house of such a class here was the cause of a great number of the sea-faring community going to the West End and drinking. Some reliance should also be placed upon Mr. Carmichael's testimony who said such a house as the applicant proposed to open was what was wanted. Another objection was raised by the Victoria Hotel, that it was in close proximity thereto he admitted, but the business to be carried on by the applicant would in no way affect the Victoria Hotel, and with respect to the objections of persons at the West End, he would ask, why should they have the monopoly of selling beer? He would leave the matter in their hands, feeling sure they would deal justly with his client. If the license was granted and the business was not conducted properly, the Police could oppose the renewal of the license. He should like to ask Mr. Poesecker, the Austrian consul, some questions, if the Board did not object.

Mr. Poesecker, in reply to Mr. Bowles, said the certificates produced were in proper order and had been so certified by him. He had known Mr. Fuchs for six months, and he believed him to be a proper person to have the license he applied for.

By Mr. Caldwell—I did not know him before he came to this Colony.

Mr. Caldwell said as the applicant was in attendance he would like to cross-examine him.

Mr. Shelton Hooper said he would like to know the names of the people Mr. Caldwell represented.

Mr. Caldwell said he was not only instructed to oppose the application by Mr.

Madar, of the Victoria Hotel, but also by Mr. Olsen, Sing Hotel; Mr. Gomer, Globe Hotel; Mr. Petersen, German Tavern; Mr. Humby, The London Inn; and Mr. Silverstein, of the Land we live in Hotel. All of those had establishments to the West of the cross-roads, and if anybody now was to get a license to the East of the cross-roads they would be getting that which had been strenuously refused to them for twenty years. The principle of refusing licenses, except to first class hotels East of the cross-roads was laid down during Mr. May's time, and had not that principle been adhered to, they would have applied for a transfer of their licenses some time since. The question was, was Mr. Fuchs, an interloper, to get a privilege that had been denied to them, many of whom had conducted their businesses for nearly thirty years?

Mr. Ryrie asked if the applicant intended to sell liquor.

Mr. Bowles said only at meal times. The applicant would not keep a public bar.

Mr. Shelton Hooper said he supposed the applicant would have to keep the same hours as other hotels.

Mr. Bowles answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Fuchs was then called and in reply to Mr. Caldwell said—I was previously in Calcutta, where I had a large business. I left there because the hot season came on, and I had to pay a very high rent. I had young women in my house. I never got into any trouble with the police, and I did not import business. My house there was similar to the house I had in Calcutta, and women lived there. I travelled through Singapore, but never stayed there. My longest stay there was eight days. I was then called for by the Superintendent of Police about some information he had received respecting me from Calcutta. He did not ask any further questions, but he said he thought I should give him no trouble and I left. He did not ask me to order me to leave Singapore. I was in Shanghai 12 years ago. I have not been there since that time. I was there on the last occasion with a Dr. Hingler and his partner Mr. Abrahamson. They consulted me with respect to starting a silk import business with America. When I found out what it was I would not join them. I advanced them in the meantime about \$400, and I only got back \$393. They were not honest people, and when they got me to go to Shanghai I found out it was a swindle, and I left them. That is all the fact they did me. I was last in Shanghai in November last year. I stayed with Dr. Hingler in his rooms. I never knew a Mrs. Mullet at Shanghai. I knew a Mrs. Polite, and she might have been Mrs. Mullet. She keeps a house in Shanghai and I have been there to dinner. I returned to Hongkong on the 13th October last. Mrs. Polite did not ask me to do anything for her in Hongkong. When I returned I did not send any person up to her. I corresponded with her, and she received letters from her. She wrote and asked me to send a certain lady up to her. The young lady went to her as a governess. Mrs. Polite asked me to get her a governess. I do not know what she wanted a young lady for. I found the young lady in the Victoria Hotel. She had a large amount of money, and I changed them for her. She paid her own hotel expenses. I gave her a letter to take to Mrs. Polite, and I got her the passage-ticket to go by the French mail steamer to Shanghai. I came to know her because she was a native of Buda-Pesth, and at the time she sent for me. Her name was Miss J. Kiss.

By Mr. Bowles—Miss Kiss was at the Victoria Hotel when I arrived in Hongkong. I know her at home. She came to Hongkong because she thought I might give her a situation.

Mr. Caldwell then said the application was not necessary. There was a side entrance to the Victoria Hotel, just opposite to the proposed licensed premises. If the application was granted the rule would be broken, and others would have the opportunity to apply to come East.

Mr. Wise said there was no rule. When applications for licenses were made, it was just an opinion given by the Board that no licenses, except perhaps for first-class hotels, should be granted East of the cross-roads.

Mr. Caldwell submitted that the statements as to the applicant's character were meagre, and they had all heard him under cross-examination. He submitted the observation made by Mr. Bowles, that the Police could always keep an eye on the house, was a very suspicious plea.

The Justices held a private consultation for a quarter of an hour, at the end of which Mr. Wise said the application would be granted.

A KOREAN OPIUM SMUGGLER AT THE POLICE COURT.

At the Magistrate's Court this morning before Mr. A. G. Wise, P.M. Clerk, Tung, a native of Korea, was charged with being in possession of one and a half tins of opium, without having a valid certificate, on the 13th inst. The defendant being unable to speak the Cantonese dialect, Inspector Quincey was sworn to interpret in Mandarin.

Mahomed Bere, Excise Officer No. 35, a Malay, stated that on the 13th instant at 3.30 p.m. he was at the Canton wharf and saw defendant land from the steamer *Hankow*. He saw that his legs were bulky, caught him, and took from him the opium in Court. It was in his leggings.

Defendant admitted being in possession of the opium, but said he was under no grant of the law, and that the opium was carried by him in his wallet in the waist, and was used for medicinal purposes only. It was not concealed in his leggings.

His Worship fined the defendant \$5, with the alternative of 16 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

The fine was paid.

A representative of this paper interviewed the defendant this morning in his lodgings at No. 69, Praya Central, and ascertained that he, together with two other Korean merchants, came here recently from the Land of Morning Calm via Shanghai on business. Like most of their race they never smoke opium and have no desire to do so, but carried a very small amount of the drug as medicine—which is often used by Koreans in certain cases of disease of the stomach or bowels. The defendant alleges that he was assaulted by the Excise Officer, and considers that it was very unfair to take not only his medicine from him, but to convict him of a criminal offence. He had no idea that he was breaking the law, and was surprised that a perfect stranger should meet with such rough treatment in a British colony that was supposed to be a free port. He had heard the English were a great people and was, therefore, greatly astonished at the rough treatment he received. He thought it was most unfair to lock him up in a cold cell for eighteen hours for breaking a law he knew nothing of, and then officially fine him five dollars.

The Korean gentleman was palpably at a disadvantage; a Hongkong detective was used to interview him in a foreign tongue—the Mandarin dialect—Malay of the former class was the principal, indeed the only, witness, and his bare statements "that the drug was concealed

